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To The Members of the Ad Hoc Committee of Federal Appellate Judges:

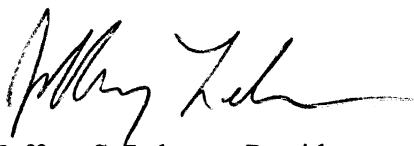
The Board of Directors of the American Law Deans Association is pleased to endorse the arrangement described in the March 2002 Final Agreement of Federal Appellate Judges, calling for a moratorium on federal appellate law clerk hiring during the Fall of 2002. We share the judges' conviction that this is "a good solution to an old and thorny problem."

We are therefore prepared to encourage all law schools to comply with the terms of the Final Agreement. In particular, we are prepared to ask the deans of all law schools to discourage law students from submitting applications for clerkship positions before the Fall of the third year of law school. And we are prepared to ask the deans of all law schools to do nothing to facilitate the release of official transcripts, and to discourage faculty members from sending letters of reference or making calls on behalf of law clerk applicants, before the Fall of the third year of law school.

We note that previous efforts by judges and schools to address this problem have unraveled in part because, when it first becomes apparent that a few judges, faculty members, and prospective clerks are not honoring the arrangement, many others are unwilling to risk losing clerks or clerkships in order to preserve a sane schedule of clerk hiring. It is inevitable that some judges, faculty members, and prospective clerks will not participate in this arrangement. We urge judges, schools, faculty members, and prospective clerks to understand that they are being asked to continue honoring this arrangement even though they may hear at times of people who are not doing so. Like the Chief Judges who have endorsed this proposal, we as deans bear a special responsibility in this regard.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors of the American Law Deans Association



by Jeffrey S. Lehman, President